STATE OF ARIZONA FILED

## STATE OF ARIZONA

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

NOV 7, 1994

DEPT, OF INSURANCE

In the Matter of

Docket No. 8491

CASH REGISTER AUTO INSURANCE OF BETHANY HOME ROAD, ARROWHEAD INSURANCE GROUP, INC., and DAVID PATRICK FIX,

ORDER

Respondents.

On October 5, 1994, a hearing was held in the above-captioned matter. Respondents Cash Register Auto Insurance of Bethany Home Road ("Cash Register"), Arrowhead Insurance Group, Inc. ("Arrowhead") and David Patrick Fix ("Fix") did not appear at the hearing. The Arizona Department of Insurance ("the Department") was represented by Kathryn Leonard, Assistant Attorney General.

On September 14, 1994, Ms. Leonard filed a request that Respondents Cash Register, Arrowhead and Fix be found in default in the above-referenced matter, that all allegations in the Notice of Hearing be admitted, and that Respondents' licenses to transact insurance be revoked.

On September 26, 1994, Respondents Arrowhead and Fix filed a request to set aside the judgment. The Procedural Order dated September 24, 1994, indicated that the Request for Default had not been considered or granted. The Procedural Order confirmed that the hearing on this matter would be held on October 5, 1994 at 9:00 a.m., after oral argument on the Department's Request for Default. None of the Respondents appeared at the October 5, 1994, hearing.

3

5

12.

3

5

On October 4, 1994, Respondents Arrowhead and Fix filed an answer to the assertions in the Notice of Hearing. On October 5, 1994, Assistant Attorney General Kathryn Leonard moved to withdraw the Request for Default and requested to proceed to a hearing against all of the named Respondents to this matter. The Motion to Withdraw the Request for Default was granted by the Administrative Law Judge.

No default order has been entered in this matter and Arrowhead's and Fix's Request to Set Aside the Judgment is denied.

Based upon the evidence submitted and testimony taken at the October 5, 1994 hearing on this matter, Administrative Law Judge Lewis D. Kowal has prepared the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order for the Director's consideration and approval, and based upon these recommendations, the Director makes the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and enters the following Order:

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. At all times material to this matter, Cash Register was licensed as a property and casualty agent and broker in the state of Arizona (license # 0805626). The licenses expired May 31, 1994.
- 2. At all times material to this matter, Arrowhead was an Arizona Corporation incorporated on July 1, 1993. Arrowhead was issued an Arizona insurance license on July 14, 1993 to be a licensed property and casualty agent and broker in the state of Arizona. (License #16919). The licenses expired July 31, 1994.
- 3. At all times material to this matter, Fix was licensed as a property and casualty insurance broker in the state

3

- 4. At all times material to this matter, Fix was the President of Cash Register and managed its office located at 6029 North 19th Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona.
- 5. As of June, 1993, Fix transacted business as Arrowhead at 6029 North 19th Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona, with the same personnel, the same equipment, and with the same insurance carriers and insureds as Cash Register.
- 6. Pursuant to Fix's instructions, as of June, 1993, employees of Cash Register told insureds, if they asked, that Cash Register had changed its name to Arrowhead.
- 7. On August 30, 1993, the Arizona Corporation

  Commission received official notification from Fix dated July 13,

  1993, that he had resigned as President and Statutory Agent of

  Cash Register as of July 1, 1993.
- 8. On September 3, 1993, the Department of Insurance received a letter from Fix dated August 23, 1993, advising the Department that Fix had resigned as President and employee of Cash Register as of July 1, 1993.
- 9. On December 10, 1992, Cash Register received \$118.00 cash from Mr. Shawn Cox ("Cox") as a down payment for an automobile liability insurance policy to be issued by National Colonial Insurance Company. The premium due on Cox's automobile liability insurance policy was financed through Universal Premium Acceptance Corporation ("UPAC").
- 10. On August 12, 1993, Cash Register received \$84.51 cash from Cox which represented the August monthly premium

2

3

payment for the National Colonial Insurance Company policy. Or August 13, 1993, Arrowhead issued check #1085 in the amount of \$84.51 to UPAC as the August payment towards Cox's account.

- 11. Arrowhead's check #1085 in the amount of \$84.51 was returned by the bank for insufficient funds.
- 12. Cash Register, Arrowhead and Fix did not pay UPAC Cox's August payment. As a result of such non-payment, on September 9, 1993, UPAC issued a notice of cancellation of Cox's policy and Cox's National Colonial Insurance Company policy was cancelled. The balance remaining on Cox's finance agreement with UPAC for the National Colonial Insurance Company policy was \$205.77 as of October 11, 1993.
- 13. Cash Register, Arrowhead and Fix have not refunded to Cox the \$84.51 premium.
- 14. Cash Register, Arrowhead and Fix misappropriated or converted Cox's \$84.51 premium to their own use.
- application for a six month automobile liability insurance policy and a \$449.00 money order from Georgina De La Huerta, ("De La Huerta"). The insurance policy was to be purchased through Four Corners General Agency, Inc., the managing general agent for United Southern Insurance Company.
- 16. Cash Register, Arrowhead and Fix did not forward De La Huerta's application and \$449.00 premium to Four Corners General Agency Inc.
- 17. Georgina De La Huerta did not receive the automobile liability insurance coverage she paid for which

4

5 6

7 8

9 10

11 12

13 14

15 16

17

18 19

20 21

22 **2**3

24

**2**5 26

27

28

resulted in her driving her automobile without insurance for several months.

- 18. Cash Register, Arrowhead and Fix have not refunded to Ms. De La Huerta the \$449.00 premium.
- 19. Cash Register, Arrowhead and Fix misappropriated or converted De La Huerta's \$449.00 premium to their own use.
- 20. Between June 17, 1993 and July 26, 1993, Dwight Financial, Inc., received eleven insufficient funds checks from Fix and Cash Register for premiums and down payments received by Cash Register from approximately sixty-nine insureds who had financed their insurance policies through Dwight Financial, Inc. Those insufficient funds checks are as follows:

<u>Check No.</u>	Date Check Issued	Amount of Check
2622	June 17, 1993	\$357.25
2623	June 17, 1993	\$431.60
2648	June 21, 1993	\$373.00
2650	June 21, 1993	\$515.85
2664	June 22, 1993	\$488.85
2711	June 29, 1993	\$380.10
2712	June 29, 1993	\$252.25
2757	July 09, 1993	\$394.40
1054	July 12, 1993	\$687.80
1094	July 19, 1993	\$222.60
1118	July 22, 1993	\$252.25
1119	July 26, 1993	\$224.00

- 21. The transmittal form which accompanied check no. 2757, dated July 9, 1993, in the amount of \$394.40 was sent to Dwight Financial, Inc., by Arrowhead Insurance Group and Cash Register.
- 22. On June 2, 1993, Cash Register issued check No. 2517 in the amount of \$359.20 to April Lopez as a premium refund after her automobile insurance policy had been cancelled. Lopez presented Cash Register's check no. 2517 for payment and the check was returned by the bank for insufficient funds.

2

5

- 23. Cash Register, Arrowhead and Fix have not refunded Lopez's \$359.20 premium refund.
- 24. Cash Register, Arrowhead and Fix misappropriated or converted Lopez's \$359.20 premium to their own use.
- 25. On August 20, 1992, Robert Mason purchased an automobile liability insurance policy from Cash Register that was to be issued by Coronet Insurance Company. That automobile liability insurance policy was financed through UPAC.
- 26. On October 20, 1992, Coronet Insurance Company cancelled the automobile liability insurance policy of Robert Mason and forwarded the return premium in the amount of \$969.00 to UPAC in November, 1992.
- 27. From January 6, 1993 through May 12, 1993, Robert Mason continued to make premium payments to UPAC even though the Coronet Insurance Company automobile liability policy had been cancelled.
- 28. From January 6, 1993, through May 12, 1993, UPAC forwarded refund checks totaling \$727.95 to Cash Register payable to Robert Mason.
- 29. Cash Register and Fix deposited the refund checks into Cash Register's bank account and have not refunded the \$727.95 premium refund to Robert Mason.
- 30. Cash Register and Fix misappropriated or converted Mason's \$727.95 premium refund to their own use.
- 31. On August 5, 1993, Cash Register, Arrowhead and Fix received \$102.65 cash from Alonzo Parker as premium for his automobile liability insurance policy. The premium for Alonzo

5

28 | . .

Parker's automobile liability insurance policy was financed through Dwight Financial, Inc.

- 32. On August 6, 1993 Arrowhead issued check No. 1058 in the amount of \$102.65 to Dwight Financial, Inc., as payment towards Alonzo Parker's account.
- 33. Arrowhead's Check No. 1058 in the amount of \$102.65 was returned by the bank for insufficient funds.
- 34. On August 23, 1993, Dwight Financial Inc., issued a 10 day Notice of Intent to Cancel to Alonzo Parker for non-payment of the August payment. Mr. Parker paid Dwight Financial, Inc., \$94.18 on August 31, 1993, to keep his policy in force. Dwight Financial, Inc., did not issue a cancellation notice and waived all insufficient funds fees for the return of Arrowhead's check no. 1058.
- 35. Cash Register, Arrowhead and Fix have not refunded to Alonzo Parker the \$102.65 premium.
- 36. Cash Register, Arrowhead and Fix misappropriated or converted Parker's \$102.65 premium to their own use.
- 37. On September 18, 1992, Ramiro Solis ("Solis"), purchased automobile liability insurance from Cash Register. The automobile liability insurance policy was issued by Coronet Insurance Company and financed through UPAC.
- 38. Solis continued to make payments to UPAC through July 15, 1993, although Coronet Insurance Company cancelled Solis' automobile liability insurance policy on January 25, 1993.

5

 39. On March 9, 1993, UPAC received a return premium of \$1,000.00 from Coronet Insurance Company. UPAC applied the \$1,000.00 as a credit to Solis' account with UPAC.

- 40. UPAC also forwarded four refund checks totalling \$1,088.51 to Cash Register payable to Solis.
- 41. Cash Register and Fix deposited three refund checks totalling \$797.10 into Cash Register's bank account and failed to refund the \$797.10 premium to Solis. Solis endorsed the fourth UPAC premium refund check no. 0431376 in the amount of \$291.41.
- 42. Cash Register and Fix have not refunded to Solis the \$797.10 premium refund.
- 43. Cash Register and Fix misappropriated or converted Solis' \$797.10 premium refund to their own use.
- 44. On May 21, 1993, Epifano De La Fuentes ("De La Fuentes") met with Fix and signed four commercial insurance policies to be issued by Interstate Fire and Casualty Company for Super Clean, EPI Wash, Las Fuentes, and Car Wash Company. Fix later received from De La Fuentes four checks dated June 17, 1994, which totalled \$5,477.00 and were made payable to Cash Register. The \$5,477.00 represented the full premium due on the commercial insurance policies for De La Fuentes' four car wash locations.
- 45. On June 21, 1993, Fix deposited into the Cash Register account four checks representing \$5,477.00 premium from De La Fuentes for the commercial insurance policies for the four car wash locations.
- 46. On July 1, 1993, Fix completed a premium finance agreement by signing De La Fuentes' name as the borrower for

 funds to pay the premium for the four commercial insurance policies to be issued by Interstate Fire and Casualty Company. From the \$5,477.00 Fix collected from De La Fuentes, Fix made a \$274.00 down payment for the commercial insurance policies. Fix submitted to Dwight Financial, Inc. the \$274.00 and finance agreement in which Fix had signed De La Fuentes' name as the borrower.

- 47. Fix listed the borrower's address on the premium finance agreement which he submitted to Dwight Financial, Inc., as being c/o Arrowhead Ins., 6029 N. 19th Ave., Phoenix, Arizona, which is the address of Cash Register and Arrowhead.
- 48. There was no need for De La Fuentes or Fix to finance the four Interstate Fire and Casualty Company commercial insurance policies because De La Fuentes had provided Fix with the full premium for these policies which amounted to \$5,477.00.
- 49. Fix made no additional payments on the De La Fuentes' premium finance agreement. September 10, 1993, Dwight Financial Inc., issued a Notice of Cancellation of the four Interstate Fire and Casualty Company commercial policies for non-payment of premium.
- 50. Interstate Fire and Casualty Company ("Interstate") agreed to maintain the commercial liability insurance policies for De La Fuentes because Interstate had received the full premium due on the policies (\$5,477.00) from Dwight Financial, Inc.
- 51. Dwight Financial, Inc., has not been reimbursed by Fix, Cash Register or Arrowhead for the premium payment Dwight Financial, Inc. made to Interstate on behalf of De La Fuentes.

- 52. Cash Register, Arrowhead and Fix misappropriated or converted De La Fuentes' \$5,203.00 premium to their own use.
- 53. On December 22, 1993, the Department issued an Order to Appear to Fix. The Order was returned to the Department by the post office marked "Forwarding Order Expired".
- 54. Fix failed to notify the Department of a change of address as required by A.R.S. §20-313.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. The conduct of Respondents Cash Register, Arrowhead and Fix constitutes a record of dishonesty in business and financial matters under A.R.S. §20-290(B)(2).
- 2. Mr. Fix's conduct constitutes a wilful violation of, non-compliance with any provision of Title 20, Arizona Revised Statutes, or any lawful rule, regulation or order of the Director in violation of A.R.S. §20-316(A)(2).
- 3. The conduct of Cash Register, Arrowhead and Fix constitutes misappropriation or conversion to their own use or illegal withholding of monies belonging to policy holders, insurers, beneficiaries or others and received in or during the conduct of business under licenses issued by the Department of Insurance or through their use in violation of A.R.S. \$20-316(A)(4).
- 4. The conduct of Cash Register, Arrowhead and Fix constitutes a conduct of affairs under their licenses showing them to be incompetent or a source of injury and loss to the public or any insurer within the meaning of A.R.S. §20-316(A)(7).
- 5. Grounds exist to suspend, revoke or refuse to renew the insurance licenses of Cash Register, Arrowhead and Fix, to

5

impose a civil penalty upon Cash Register, Arrowhead and Fix and to order Cash Register, Arrowhead and Fix to make restitution, pursuant to A.R.S. \$\$20-316(A), 20-316(C) and 20-290(B)(2).

## **ORDER**

IT IS ORDERED that:

- 1. All insurance licenses issued to Cash Register Auto Insurance of Bethany Home Road, Arrowhead Insurance Group, Inc., and David Patrick Fix are revoked effective immediately.
- 2. Pursuant to A.R.S. \$20-316(C), Cash Register Auto Insurance of Bethany Home Road shall pay a civil penalty to the Arizona Department of Insurance in the amount of \$2,000.00 within 20 days of the date of this Order.
- 3. Pursuant to A.R.S. §20-316(C), Arrowhead Insurance Group, Inc., shall pay a civil penalty to the Arizona Department of Insurance in the amount of \$2,000.00 within 20 days of the date of this Order.
- 4. Pursuant to A.R.S. \$20-316(C), David Patrick Fix shall pay a civil penalty to the Arizona Department of Insurance in the amount of \$2,250.00 within 20 days of the date of this Order.
- 5. Pursuant to A.R.S. \$20-316(C), Cash Register Auto Insurance of Bethany Home Road, Arrowhead Insurance Group, Inc., and David Patrick Fix shall be jointly and severally liable to make the following restitution payments: the sum of \$323.77 to Shawn Cox; the sum of \$449.00 to Georgina De La Huerta; the sum of \$359.20 to April Lopez; the sum of \$727.95 to Robert Mason; the sum of \$102.65 to Alonzo Parker; the sum of \$797.10 to Ramiro Solis, and the sum of \$5,203.00 to Dwight Financial, Inc.. All

such restitution payments are to be made within 30 days of this Order and proof of such restitution payments are to be submitted to the Director of the Arizona Department of Insurance within 45 days of this Order.

6. Pursuant to A.R.S. §20-315, Cash Register Auto
Insurance of Bethany Home Road, Arrowhead Insurance Group, Inc.,
and David Patrick Fix shall within 20 days of the date of this
Order surrender to the Director of the Arizona Department of
Insurance all insurance licenses issued to them by the Department.

EFFECTIVE this 7-th day of November, 1994.

CHRIS HERSTAM

CHRIS HERSTAM
Director of Insurance

THUS D. KOUNT

LEWIS D. KOWAL Administrative Law Judge

COPY of the foregoing mailed/delivered this The day of November, 1994, to:

Kathryn Leonard Assistant Attorney General 1275 W. Washington Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Gay Ann Williams, Deputy Director
Charles R. Cohen, Executive Assistant Director
John Gagne, Acting Manager of Investigations
Arnold Sniegowski, Investigator
Maureen Catalioto, Supervisor
Department of Insurance
2910 N. 44th Street, Suite 210
Phoenix, Arizona 85018

Cash Register Auto Insurance of Bethany Home Road 2533 W. Bethany Home Road Phoenix, AZ 85017

Cash Register Auto Insurance 6029 N. 19th Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85015

Arrowhead Insurance Group, Inc. 6029 N. 19th Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85015

David Patrick Fix 13013 N. 59th Dr. Glendale, AZ 85304

David Patrick Fix 3233 W. Charleston Ave. Phoenix, AZ 85023

Nancy Rangel, Secretary for Lewis D. Kowal

1 COPY of the Arizona Department of Insurance Docket # 8491 Order dated 2 November 7, 1994, mailed this Whay of November, 1994, to: 3 Lloyd Register 4 Sharon Register LR3 Enterprises, Inc. 5 1535 N. Maitland Avenue Maitland, FL 32751-3317 6 Alpha Property & Casualty Inc. Co. 7 130 S. Main Street P.O. Box 517 8 Shawano, WI 54166 Colonial Insurance Co. of California 9 2390 E. Orangewood Avenue 10 Anaheim, CA 92806-6167 Dixie National Life Ins. Co. 11 P.O. Box 22587 12 Jackson, MS 39225-2587 Merit Insurance Co. 13 c/o Skyway Management P.O. Box 4490 14 Scottsdale, AZ 85260-4490 15 Coronet Insurance Company c/o Insurance Services Underwriters 16 of the Southwest 8723 E. Via De Commercio 17 Scottsdale, AZ 85258 18 Sierra General Agency P.O. Box 13538 19 Scottsdale, AZ 85254 20 Victoria Fire & Casualty Co. P.O. Box 94534 21 Cleveland, OH 44101-4534 22 Century National Ins. Co. P.O. Box 3999 **2**3 North Hollywood, CA 91609 24 Empire Fire & Marine 1624 Douglas Street **2**5 Omaha, NE 68102 26 Midland Risk Insurance Co. 825 Crossover Lane, #112 27 Memphis, TN 38117-4936

1 Safeway Insurance Co. 500 S. Racine Avenue 2 Chicago, IL 60607 3 Statewide Insurance Co. P.O. Box 799 4 Waukegan, IL 60079 5 Viking Insurance Company of Wisconsin P.O. Box 10999 6 Austin, TX 78766 7 James J. Appenauer 1740 N. 15th Street, Suite 1117 Phoenix, AZ 85022 8 9 Craig Heath Dwight Financial, Inc. 3335 N. 16th Street, Suite 2000 10 Phoenix, AZ 85018 11 Terry & Darcie Cox 7209 W. Pasadena Avenue 12 Glendale, AZ 85303 13 April Lopez 1485 E. Dover 14 Mesa, AZ 85203 15 Georgina De La Huerta 4450 N. 49th Drive 16 Phoenix, AZ 85031 17 Robert Mason 4430 N. 28th Street, #2 18 Phoenix, AZ 85016 19 Alonzo Parker 7002 W. Indian School Road, #1055 20 Phoenix, AZ 85033 21 Ramiro Solis 6210 S. 6th Avenue 22 Phoenix, AZ 85041 **2**3 Bill Ash c/o Insurance Service Underwriters 24 of the Southwest 8723 E. Via De Commercio **2**5 Scottsdale, AZ 85258 26 Epifano De La Fuentes 20849 N. 20th Street 27 Phoenix, AZ 85024

The aggrieved party may request a rehearing with respect to this Order by filing a written petition with the Administrative Law Division within 30 days of the date of this Order, setting forth the basis for such relief pursuant to A.A.C. R4-14-114(B).

The final decision of the Director may be appealed to the Superior Court of Maricopa County for judicial review pursuant to A.R.S. §20-166.

0

3

A COPY of the attached Order in Arizona Department of Insurance Docket No. 8491 was mailed this day of November, 1994, to:

David P. Fix Arrowhead Property and Casualty 1466 E. Main St. Mesa, AZ 85203

By: Mancy Rangel Nancy Rangel